

**City of Atlanta
Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Corridor Study
Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
12-16-04
6:30 pm
Adamsville Rec. Center**



Attendees:

Marty Sewell (City of Atlanta)
Sara W. Hicks (City of Atlanta)
Herman Howard (Turner)
Saundi Wilson (NPU I)
Jerry Riley (NPU K)

Harry Strate (WSA)
Kalanos Johnson (WSA)
R.R. Harris (NPU H)
Cathy Richards (NPU H)
Mel Reid (NPU H)

Meeting Discussion Items:

1. Kalanos Johnson started the meeting and welcomed the Advisory Committee to the 3rd meeting.
2. Kalanos Johnson was prepared to give an overview of the minutes from the last Advisory Committee meeting from November, but didn't have copies of the minutes for the attendees. He was advised to table the reading of the minutes until the next Advisory Committee meeting and to make sure that he provided them with minutes in the future. He also reminded the attendees of the Project Website and e-mail address where they can get all project information and send comments to the WSA Project Team regarding the study.
3. Next there was a review of the notebooks that were distributed to the advisory committee. These notebooks were designed to allow the committee to keep all of the several documents they receive in this process in a nice format, explained Kalanos Johnson. They contain the project schedule, draft goals & objectives, draft existing conditions report and summaries of existing plans and studies along the corridor. The first item discussed was the draft existing conditions report created by the WSA Project Team. This draft had been reviewed by the city staff initially and is pending some of their revisions/edits. Kalanos Johnson asked the committee to also review it for comments and revisions as well. Since the document is 25 pages long, the committee agreed to review it thoroughly and to get back to the project team with comments.

Next, the committee reviewed the draft goals and objectives developed by the WSA Project Team. The consultants had developed a matrix that had the draft goals & objectives on the left side with the NPU designations on the top of the matrix. The matrix was designed to show how the draft goals and objectives were consistent with some of the goals and objectives of the neighborhood groups along the corridor, which all had representation on the

advisory committee. There was a question by Jerry Riley as to the origin of the goals & objectives. Kalanos Johnson explained that the goals are a combination of the purpose and scope of the study with some regional transportation-based goals along with some community-based recommendations. The NPU recommendations were obtained from the City's NPU website to assess their relevancy to the draft goals & objectives. There was also a comment about the accuracy of the website by Cathy Richards who asserted that the goals for NPU H are 'outdated' appear to be a 'wish list' and do not reflect the actual community goals. The city staff in attendance informed the committee that the city will update all the CDP goals in 2005 to reflect any changes.

Other items reviewed in the notebooks included the summaries of previously completed studies and plans in the corridor along with existing transit conditions. Kalanos Johnson mentioned to the committee that similar to the existing conditions report, these items will be updated as well.

4. Next the WSA Project Team provided a brief overview of the next Public Meeting (Charette) that will take place on January 18th. Kalanos Johnson explained the purpose for the meeting will be to collaborate with the community in the development solutions for four scenarios: Current Trends, Community-Based, Multi-Modal/TOD and Enhancements & Aesthetics. Although there only four scenarios, it was explained to the committee that a solution could be a combination of these or even none of these and that will be determined. The meeting will allow the community at least two hours to work with facilitators for this process. There was only a brief overview of this meeting since there will be another meeting with the advisory committee prior to the public meeting to focus more on the agenda items.
5. Kalanos Johnson then went over the project schedule. There were some updates to the schedule for future meetings for the committee as well as for the general public and the project team.
6. Next, there was an update of the Market Analysis for the study. The WSA Project Team discussed the status of the analysis in regards to the data gathering process and interviews of developers and business owners in addition to tenants. The WSA Team is also conducting an inventory of space and structures and assessing the potential reuse of space. There is also a revised focus on the industrial sector for this corridor per the city's request.
7. Later, there was a brief period of general comments & concerns by the attendees. They went as follows:

- *"What is the priority of corridors for the city? We don't want to get to the end of the process and the city's money is already spent on other corridors."*
- *"Make sure that the maps are updated to accurately portray the proper land use and zoning designations for the corridor. This is an issue that I have mentioned to both the city staff and the consultant team in the past."*
- *"What takes precedent, the land use from the CDP or the zoning classifications?"*
- *"In developing any future goals & objectives, you should focus solely on the NPU goals and not just any public comments."*
- *"In the existing conditions report, change all references to the corridor being vital to Southwest Atlanta to 'West Atlanta' cause the corridor is not in Southwest Atlanta."*
- *"Have any of you contacted the FCC regarding the consideration of moving utility and power lines underground?"*
- *"You need to focus more on underground utilities and infrastructure in the area. Particularly drainage issues."*
- *"I'm concerned about the budget issues for this study. Can you send me some information on the project budget or a line item budget that shows what the city has spent on this study?"*
- *"Can you make sure to have legends for all the maps and graphics that you use in the future?"*
- *"You should make sure to coordinate with existing property owners and developers to assess their plans for development because the community is not waiting on the city for developing their own properties."*
- *"In the future, can you be sure to send an advance copy of the agenda as well as the minutes from previous meetings so we can be prepared?"*

There were no additional comments or questions, and the meeting ended. The next advisory committee meeting for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Corridor Study will be January 11th at 6:30 p.m. in preparation for the next public meeting.